



California Fair Political Practices Commission

August 17, 1989

Honorable Larry Stirling
Senator, Thirty-Ninth District
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Your Request for Informal Assistance
Our File No. I-89-477

Dear Senator Stirling:

We have received your letter dated August 3, 1989, concerning the recent Court of Appeal decision in Taxpayers to Limit Campaign Sending v. Fair Political Practices Commission. I understand that on August 4, 1989, you met with Lilly Spitz, an attorney with the Commission's Legal Division, to discuss the Taxpayers decision. I assume that your meeting with Ms. Spitz has taken care of this inquiry.

Enclosed is a copy of the August 1989 Bulletin, which contains a summary of the Taxpayers case. The Commission has decided to petition the California Supreme Court to review the decision of the Court of Appeal.

If you have any further questions, please contact this office at (916) 322-5901.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathryn E. Donovan", is written above the typed name.

Kathryn E. Donovan
General Counsel

KED:plh

Enclosure

Senate
California Legislature



LARRY STIRLING
SENATOR, THIRTY-NINTH DISTRICT

4669 MURPHY CANYON ROAD
SUITE 239
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
PHONE: (619) 237-7777

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August 3, 1989

Mr. John Larson, Chair
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 "J" Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Larson:

Enclosed is an article which appeared in The San Diego Union on August 3, 1989.

What precisely does this mean? What action should I take, if any, and when?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Larry", written over the typed name.

LARRY STIRLING
Senator, 39th District

LS:prp
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The West

ks limits on fund raising

political watchdog group Californians for a Common Cause, the main backer of Proposition 68, said at a news conference yesterday.

But a spokeswoman for Assembly Minority Leader Ross Johnson, one of the authors of Proposition 73, the local campaign reform initiative also approved in the same June 1988 election, said Johnson would most likely appeal the decision to the state Supreme Court.

Under the ruling released Tuesday, candidates for the state Assembly would be limited to \$50,000 per election from organizations and political action committees, while the limit for state Senate candidates would be \$75,000.

Those groups also could donate no more than \$200,000 to all candidates over two years, while individuals

would be limited to total donations of \$25,000 in that time, according to the appeals court.

The limits apply to both incumbents and challengers. Candidates seeking statewide office, including the governorship, are exempted.

The appeals court, however, did not uphold the section of Proposition 68 calling for the use of tax money in campaigns, nor did it uphold a section dealing with limits on campaign spending.

"The campaign reform agenda remains incomplete," said Zelman.

Still, the decision, if it is implemented, could greatly reduce the amount of money candidates get from special-interest groups, Zelman said.

Candidates have spent as much as \$500,000 to \$700,000 in special-inter-

est donations, about the same amount they would spend under the appeals court decision, said Zelman.

The fund raising rules will go into effect 30 days after the decision is announced, unless the decision is appealed.

The appeals court decision is the latest chapter in the long implementation of Proposition 68 measures.

Proposition 68 got 58 percent of the votes, but Proposition 73's provisions showed where the two measures differed.

The state Fair Political Practices Commission ruled that Proposition 73's provisions showed where the two measures differed. Only a few minor provisions of Proposition 68 were allowed to stand under the FPPC ruling.

Proposition 73, sp-

* STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
PHONE: (916) 445-3952

Senate

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SUITE 239
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

F P California Legislature

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LARRY STIRLING

SENATOR, THIRTY-NINTH DISTRICT

August 3, 1989

Mr. John Larson, Chairman
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95804

Dear Mr. Larson:

Enclosed is an article which appeared in The San Diego Union on August 3, 1989. What precisely does this mean? What action should I take, if any, and when?

Sincerely,

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LARRY STIRLING
Senator, 39th District

LS:dmk

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The fund raising restrictions would
go into effect 30 days from Tuesday,
unless the decision is appealed.

The appeals court decision marked
the latest chapter in a dispute over
implementation of the two ballot
measures.

Proposition 68 got 52.8 percent of
the votes, but Proposition 73 cap-
tured 58 percent.

The state Fair Political Practices
Commission ruled that Proposition
73's provisions should take effect
where the two measures differed.
Only a few minor provisions of Prop-
osition 68 were allowed to take effect
under the FPPC ruling.

Proposition 73, sponsored by three

legislators, includes contribution
limits for state and local candidates,
but only limits the size of individual
contributions.

It does not include any aggregate
contribution limits or spending lim-
its, nor does it ban non-election year
fund raising. It bans public financing
— the use of tax money to help pay
for political campaigns.

A spokeswoman for the state Fair
Political Practices Commission said
the appeal court decision could be
appealed either by the FPPC or by
Proposition 73's proponents.

Johnson, R-Fullerton, one of the
Proposition 73 authors, was vaca-
tioning in Mexico and couldn't be
reached for comment. But his press
secretary, Anne Richards, said, "I
think there's a good chance he will be